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A LIST OF THE LIZARDS COLLECTED BY R. H. BECK IN THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC, NOVEMBER, 1920, TO MAY, 1921

In the course of his work for the Whitney South Sea Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, Mr. Rollo H. Beck has made a considerable collection of the lizards occurring on the islands visited by him. Six species, of as many genera (three geckos and three skinks) are represented by one-hundred-and-six specimens, from eight islands, collected during the period from November, 1920, to May, 1921.

While no new species are represented, the collection is of especial interest in adding three forms to the known reptile fauna of Christmas Island, and in the definite records from several other islands, from which lizards have not previously been known.

Recent papers on the herpetology of the more eastern Pacific Islands, with the notable exception of that by Stejneger on the Hawaiian reptiles (1899, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXI, pp. 783-813) consist chiefly of isolated records or of notes on specimens from a single island. Should Mr. Beck be so fortunate as to secure further material from the oceanic islands of the Pacific, a more comprehensive study of the distribution and variation of their scanty reptile fauna will be possible.

A comprehensive account of Christmas Island (Andrews, Charles W., 1900, A Monograph of Christmas Island) contains an account of its reptiles by Dr. G. A. Boulenger, based on several previous collections together with that of Mr. Andrews in 1897-1898. The survey by Andrews was undertaken for the express purpose of ascertaining the status of the fauna before the commercial development of the island by an English company, and I believe we may accept Boulenger's list of 1900 as

complete, at least for all of the conspicuous or abundant forms. The fact that Mr. Beck's collection, obtained some twenty-two years later, contains numerous specimens of *Lepidodactylus lugubris* and a single one each of *Peropus mutilatus* and *Cryptoblepharus poecilopleurus*, all three species widely distributed in Oceania, is fairly conclusive if indirect evidence pointing towards their accidental introduction by human agency.

The list of species and localities follows:—

Lipidodactylus lugubris (Dumeril and Bibron); Christmas Island, 29 specimens; Tahiti, Society Islands, 8 specimens; Tubuai Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen.

Peropus mutilatus (Wiegmann); Christmas Island, 1 specimen; Tahiti, Society Islands, 1 specimen. Ravaivai Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen; Remitara Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen.

Gehyra oceanica (Lesson); Tahiti, Society Islands, 5 specimens; Ravaivai Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen; Remitara Island, Austral Islands, 4 specimens.

Leiopisma noctua (Lesson); Tahiti, Society Islands, 7 specimens; Remitara Island, Austral Islands, 3 specimens; Rurutu Island, Austral Islands, 4 specimens; Ravaivai Island, Austral Islands, 3 specimens.

Emoia cyanura (Lesson); Hivaoa Island, Marquesas Islands, 1 specimen; Tahiti, Society Islands, 6 specimens; Remitara Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen; Rurutu Island, Austral Islands, 6 specimens; Ravaivai Island, Austral Islands, 6 specimens; Tubuai Island, Austral Islands, 5 specimens.

Cryptoblepharus poecilopleurus Wiegmann; Christmas Island, 1 specimen; Rapa Island, 3 specimens; Tahiti, Society Islands, 4 specimens; Remitara Island, Austral Islands, 1 specimen; Tubuai Island, Austral Islands, 3 specimens.

KARL P. SCHMIDT,
New York, N. Y.